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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/809,169	03/16/2001	Makoto Onodera	500.39896X00	5757

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EXAMINER	
SHAAWAT, MUSSA	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2128	

DATE MAILED: 10/22/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/809,169	ONODERA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Mussa A Shaawat	2128	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *16 March 2001*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-10* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-10* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *16 March 2001* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *16 March 2001*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to application # 09/809,169, filed on March 16, 2001. Claims 1-10 are presented for examination.

Specification

2. The abstract is objected to for reciting the legal phraseology "joint means" in line 3 of the abstract. Applicant is reminded that the form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

Appropriate action is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter, which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claims 7-10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 second paragraph as being indefinite.

As to claim 7, the phrase "such as" renders the claim indefinite because it is unclear whether the limitations following the phrase are part of the claimed invention. See MPEP § 2173.05(d).

Claims 8-10 are rejected for fully incorporating the deficiencies of independent claim 7 by dependency.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) The invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claim1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ozawa et al, US Patent No. (6,224,249) referred to hereinafter as Ozawa.

As to claim 1, Ozawa teaches an analytic model preparing apparatus for preparing an analytic model for analysis from a CAD model (see col.5 lines 20-26, et-seq), wherein said apparatus has the function of searching a joint portion from data of said CAD model (see col.5 lines 50-56, et-seq) and emphatically displaying (see col.5 lines 35-38, et-seq) the joint portion (see col.2 lines 21-24).

As to claim 2, Ozawa teaches an analytic model preparing apparatus for preparing an analytic model for analysis from a CAD model (see col.5 lines 20-26, et-seq), wherein said apparatus has the function of searching a joint portion from data of said CAD model (see col.5 lines 50-56, et-seq) and preparing an analytic model (see col.5 lines 10-15, Fig1 Block e3) corresponding to the joint portion (see col.2 lines 21-24).

As to claim 3, Ozawa teaches a storage medium storing an analytic model preparing program (see col.6 lines 6-12, et-seq.) for preparing an analytic model for analysis from a CAD model (see col.5 lines 20-26, et-seq), wherein said analytic model preparing program provides

the function of searching a joint portion from data of said CAD model (see col.5 lines 50-56, et-seq) and delivering a signal for emphatically displaying (see col.5 lines 35-38, et-seq) the joint portion (see col.2 lines 21-24).

As to claim 4, Ozawa teaches a storage medium storing an analytic model preparing program (see col.6 lines 6-12, et-seq.) for preparing an analytic model for analysis from a CAD model (see col.5 lines 20-26, et-seq), wherein said analytic model preparing program provides the function of searching a joint portion from data of said CAD model (see col.5 lines 50-56, et-seq) and preparing an analytic model (see col.5 lines 10-15, Fig1 Block e3) corresponding to the joint portion (see col.2 lines 21-24).

As to claim 5, Ozawa teaches a storage apparatus storing an analytic model preparing program (see col.6 lines 6-12, et-seq.) for preparing an analytic model for analysis from a CAD model (see col.5 lines 20-26, et-seq), wherein said analytic model preparing program provides the function of searching a joint portion from data of said CAD model (see col.5 lines 50-56, et-seq) and delivering a signal for emphatically displaying (see col.5 lines 35-38, et-seq) the joint portion (see col.2 lines 21-24).

As to claim 6, Ozawa teaches a storage apparatus storing an analytic model preparing program (see col.6 lines 6-12, et-seq.) for preparing an analytic model for analysis from a CAD model (see col.5 lines 20-26, et-seq), wherein said analytic model preparing program has the function of searching a joint portion from data of said CAD model (see col.5 lines 50-56, et-seq) and preparing an analytic model (see col.5 lines 10-15, Fig1 Block e3) corresponding to the joint portion (see col.2 lines 21-24).

As to claim 7, Ozawa teaches an analytic model preparing apparatus for preparing an analytic model for numerical analysis in respect of a CAD model (see col.5 lines 20-26, et-seq) including a joint means such as welding, rivet, bolt, screw or adhering, comprising: means for inputting, as the CAD model, profile data and a profile attribute of an object to be analyzed (see col.5 lines 37-39); means for searching a part of laminate structure from said CAD model to prepare a neutral plane model (see col.2 lines 31-36); means for extracting a joint target part, a joint position and a joint means from said CAD model (see col.5 lines 52-61); means for registering said extracted joint target part, joint position and joint means as parts joint data (see col.8 lines 38-41); means for retrieving a joint model preparing object corresponding to said joint means registered in said parts joint data from a joint model preparing object database (see col.3 lines 20-27); means for executing a joint model preparing process registered in said joint model preparing object to prepare a joint model (see col.2 lines 39-46, et-seq); and means for synthesizing said joint model and said neutral plane model to prepare an analytic model (see col.13 lines 45-48).

As to claim 8, Ozawa teaches an analytic model preparing apparatus according to claim 7, wherein as said joint model preparing object, the joint means, joint model type, joint model attribute and joint model preparing procedure are registered in said joint model preparing object database (see col.3 lines 20-27).

As to claim 9, Ozawa teaches an analytic model preparing apparatus according to claim 7, further comprising means for registering said joint target part, joint position and joint means in a three-dimensional CAD model as assembly joint data, and means for registering said joint target part, said joint position and said joint means as parts joint data (see col.8 lines 38-41).

As to claim 10, Ozawa teaches an analytic model preparing apparatus according to claim 7, further comprising means for emphatically displaying a joint position identified from said CAD model on an input/output unit (see col.5 lines 35-38, et-seq).

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- Harrison et al. US Patent No. (6,611,725) computer drawing system.
- Hirata et al. US patent No. (5,831,875) Link mechanism analyzer and link mechanism joint data arithmetic apparatus.
- Yoshikawa et al. US Patent No. (6,792,397) coupling parts information generation system, method of generating coupling parts of information, and computer readable medium.

Communication

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mussa A Shaawat whose telephone number is (703) 605-1372. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (8:30am to 5:00pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jean R Homere can be reached on (703) 308-6647. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Mussa Shaawat
Examiner
October 4, 2004

JEAN R. HOMERE
PRIMARY EXAMINER